

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00554 281550Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02  
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01  
USIA-06 /066 W  
-----281616 074376 /40

P R 281535Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5095  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

S E C R E T LUSAKA 0554

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

REF: LUSAKA 0532 (NOTAL); LUSAKA 0526 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY QUERIED BY SHADRACK SOKO OF THE TIMES OF ZAMBIA AFTERNOON FEB 28 REGARDING PRESENCE OF AMERICAN MERCENARIES FROM RHODESIA IN ZAMBIA. SOKO, WHEN TOLD THAT THE EMBASSY HAD NO INFORMATION ON SUCH REPORTS, SAID THAT THE TIMES CORRESPONDENT IN THE COPPERBELT REPORTED THAT THE PLANE USED BY MERCENARIES IS AT THE LUANSHYA AIRPORT AND THAT THEY WERE BEING HELD AND INTERROGATED BY THE ZAMBIAN ARMY.

2. AT THE TIME OF SOKO'S CALL DAVID MARTIN OF THE LONDON OBSERVER WAS WITH EMBASSY OFFICER AND EXPRESSED DISBELIEF THAT THE EMBASSY DID NOT KNOW OF THE MERCENARIES PRESENCE IN ZAMBIA. MARTIN SAID HE HAD HAD HARD CONFIRMATION OF THE STORY FOR A WEEK. MARTIN WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE LONDON OBSERVER FEB 27 CARRIED STORY THAT THE MERCENARIES WERE BEING HELD AND QUESTIONED IN ZAMBIA. LOW

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, MERCENARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LUSAKA00554  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DC AND TITLE LINE PER 77 LUSAKA 654  
**Executive Order:** X2  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770068-0951  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LUSAKA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977023/aaaaacrn.tel  
**Line Count:** 47  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** d58617c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 LUSAKA 532, 77 LUSAKA 526  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3289902  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AMERICAN MERCENARIES PRESENCE IN ZAMBIA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, SOPN, RH, ZA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d58617c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009